

# ULTIMATE THOR

MARVEL

HICKMAN • PACHECO • VINES • DELGADO

ISSUE

4



RATED T+

\$3.99US

DIRECT EDITION

MARVEL.COM





PREVIOUSLY...



## E.U.S.S. HIGH COMMAND, PRESENT:

Thorlief Golmen, a man enrolled in the European Super-Soldier Program, spirals into a psychological delusion, believing that he is a Norse god lost among men. Professor Braddock, the head of the program, can't determine the source of the subject's problem and recruits Dr. Blake for help. Dr. Blake claims that the patient is remembering.

## ASGARD, AGES AGO:

Thor has been given Mjolnir, a weapon so powerful he has become virtually unstoppable. Balder, Thor's brother, catches their other sibling Loki stealing the powerful Norn stones from Odin's chambers. In a moment of defiance, Loki kills Balder in cold blood.

## ASGARD, 1939:

Posing as Baron Zemo, Loki has made an alliance with the Frost Giants, laying siege to Asgard and inciting Ragnarok--the end of all things. In the final moments of destruction, Odin banishes Loki to the room without doors, but is killed by Mammoth, the leader of the Frost Giants. Crushed by his father's death, Thor swing's Mjolnir one last time, dissipating Asgard into nothingness.



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WAKE UP,  
THOR...

OPEN YOUR  
EYES.



FINALLY.

CAN YOU  
TELL ME WHO  
I AM?







BALDER  
THE BRAVE.

BALDER  
MY BROTHER.

WELCOME  
BACK.



GODS. I  
REMEMBER.

I... I DON'T  
HAVE THE WORDS...  
HOW ARE YOU  
HERE?



LIKE YOU,  
I WAS REBORN...  
WITH PURPOSE.



I'M SO  
CONFUSED...  
IT'S AS IF I'VE  
BEEN ASLEEP FOR  
FAR TOO LONG  
A TIME.

THAT'S  
BECAUSE YOU  
HAVE BEEN,  
THOR.

RIGHT NOW,  
THE BURNT HUSK  
OF THE WORLD TREE  
TOWERS OVER  
THE RUINS OF  
ASGARD.

A DEAD  
WINTER WHERE  
NOTHING LIVES  
MARKS WHAT  
WAS ONCE  
PARADISE.

BUT THE  
ALL-FATHER *WILL*  
RETURN WHEN  
WE NEED HIM  
MOST.

THE WORLD  
TREE WILL *BLOOM*.  
ODIN WILL BE REBORN...  
AND A BRILLIANT,  
FRAGMENTED LIGHT--A  
*RAINBOW BRIDGE*--  
WILL MARK THE WAY BACK  
TO ASGARD.

UNTIL THAT  
TIME, WHAT WAS  
ONCE IN HIM LIVES  
ON IN US... HERE.  
ON EARTH.

WHY?

BECAUSE  
FATHER MEANS  
TO REMAKE TWO  
WORLDS.

ASGARD  
INTO WHAT IT  
ONCE WAS...AND  
THIS ONE, INTO  
WHAT IT CAN  
BE.

HOW DO YOU  
UNDERSTAND  
THESE THINGS,  
BALDER?



I AM THE EYE OF ODIN--HIS VISION LIVES ON IN ME.

AND YOU, THOR, YOU ARE HIS HEART AND HAVE IT IN YOU TO MAKE IT SO...

TIME TO CHANGE THE WORLD, LITTLE BROTHER.



I HAVE NEVER BELIEVED THAT TO BE TRUE, BALDER. AND NOW I AM POWERLESS--A MORTAL MAN--AND I FAIL TO SEE A PATH LEADING TO THE FUTURE YOU SPEAK OF.

A WAY WILL PRESENT ITSELF, THOR. PERHAPS THERE WILL BE A SIGN.



AND WHAT DO WE DO WHILE WE'RE WAITING FOR THAT?

WE LIVE, BROTHER. WE LIVE.

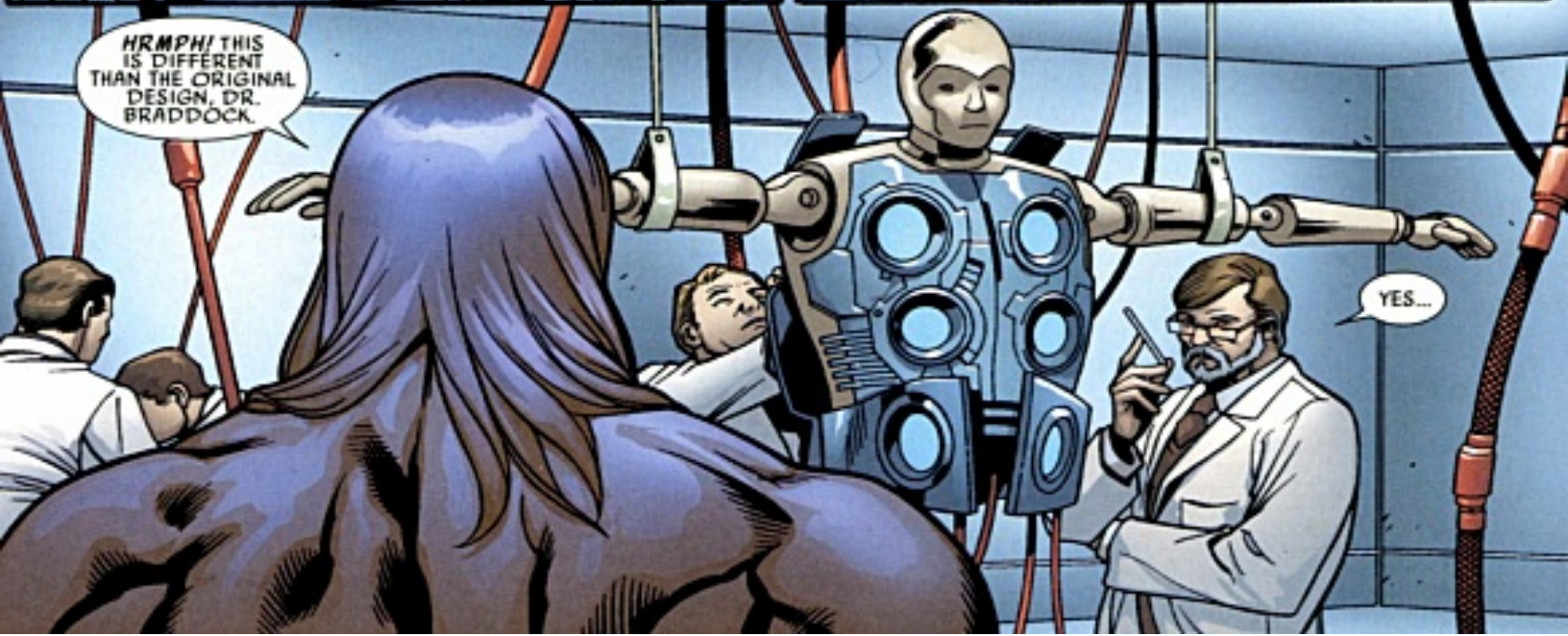


COME WITH ME...

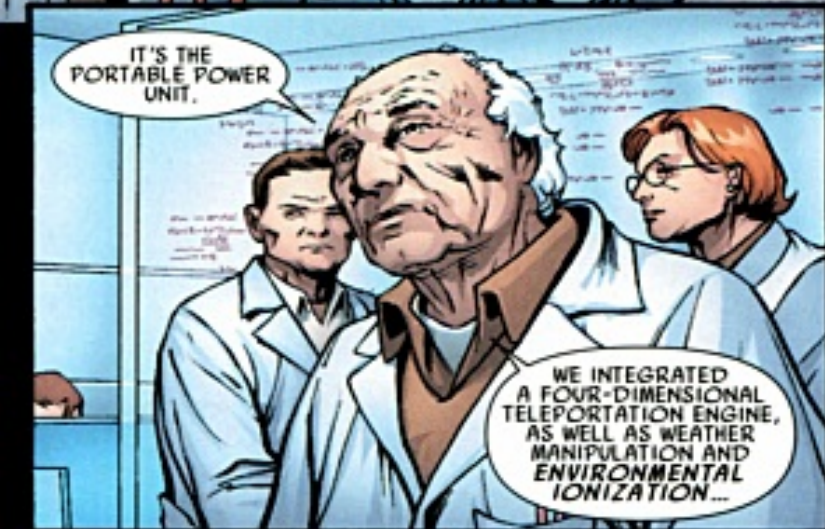


...THEY ARE WAITING FOR US IN THE LAB.

















MAKE ME A  
HAMMER.





EIGHT MONTHS LATER.

THIS WAS THE SCENE ONE WEEK AGO AS CAPTAIN AMERICA WAS REINTRODUCED TO THE WORLD AS PART OF THE UNITED STATES' NEW DEFENSE INITIATIVE.

THE ULTIMATES ARE THE LATEST CHAPTER IN THE FASCINATING STORY OF EMERGING SUPERHUMANS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

TONIGHT, WE'LL LOOK AT THIS GROWING PHENOMENON AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR EACH OF US... THE ORDINARY, EVERYDAY CITIZENS OF EARTH.

JOINING US NOW IS THE FIRST EUROPEAN POST-HUMAN, THE NORSE GOD OF THUNDER...

GOOD EVENING, THOR.

WAL WARRING ON THE RISE - E.U.S.S. INITIATIVE SPARKS CONTROVERSY - SOVIET PRESIDENT DELIVER

I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE IN TUNISIA THIS EVENING.

HELLO, JUDY.

YES, I'M HELPING WITH A U.N.-SPONSORED WATER RECLAMATION PROJECT. HOPEFULLY, IF I DO MY PART AND WE HAVE A BIT OF LUCK, TWO YEARS FROM NOW THIS PATCH OF DESERT WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE LONG-TERM SUSTENANCE FOR THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES.

THEN WE CAN FOCUS ON DOING EVEN MORE.

THAT SOUNDS WONDERFUL.

THANK YOU. IT REALLY IS.

I DO HOPE YOU DON'T MIND ME SWITCHING GEARS HERE, BUT I HAVE TO ASK ABOUT THE RUMORS CONCERNING THE AMERICANS WANTING YOU TO JOIN THEIR NEW TEAM. ANY TRUTH THERE?







ONE WEEK LATER.



NORWAY.



ONE MONTH EARLIER.



RUNNING  
A LITTLE  
LATE?

I'M HERE  
NOW.



WELL  
THANK GOD  
FOR THAT.

HOPE YOU  
DON'T MIND ME  
STARTING WITHOUT  
YOU... I WAS  
STARVING.





YEAH, THANKS,  
BUT I'M GONNA  
STICK WITH THE  
FORK.

MENU'S RIGHT  
IN FRONT OF YOU.  
I HEAR THIS JOINT  
DOES SOME VERY FINE  
WORK IN THE SALAD  
DEPARTMENT.



OKAY THEN,  
WHY DON'T I  
JUST GET RIGHT  
TO IT.

THOR... I HAVE  
AN OPPORTUNITY  
FOR YOU... AND, IF  
YOU DON'T MIND TOO  
MUCH, I'D ALSO LIKE TO  
OFFER YOU A BIT OF  
CAREER ADVICE.



I  
ALREADY HAVE  
COUNSEL...

AND HIS  
WISDOM IS  
MEASURED IN  
MILLENNIA,  
GENERAL  
FURY.





JUST  
THE OFFER  
THEN, FAIR  
ENOUGH.

WE'D  
LIKE FOR YOU  
TO JOIN OUR  
TEAM.

WE HAVE  
DENTAL.



I DON'T KNOW,  
GENERAL...SHOULD I SPEND  
MY DAYS HELPING THE EVERYDAY  
MEN AND WOMEN OF THIS WORLD,  
OR SHOULD I SPEND THEM TAKING  
ORDERS FROM THE BAGMAN OF  
A GREEDY NATION STATE?

MAYBE I'M  
OVERTHINKING  
THINGS.

WHY DO  
I GET THE FEELING  
YOU'RE TRYING TO  
SHAME ME?

OH...  
I AM.



WRONG  
STICK, SON...  
WRONG  
DOG.

I DON'T  
SPEND MY DAYS  
MEDITATING, OR  
RUNNING SELF-HELP  
SEMINARS...

I DEAL WITH  
REAL PROBLEMS THAT  
REQUIRE HARD DECISIONS...  
AND IN ALMOST EVERY  
INSTANCE, PEOPLE'S  
LIVES HANG IN THE  
BALANCE.



EVEN THEN,  
I SLEEP...JUST  
FINE.

THE ONLY THING THAT DOES  
KEEP ME UP AT NIGHT ARE  
THE THINGS I CAN'T PLAN  
FOR, THINGS  
LIKE YOU.

AND THE  
ONLY SOLUTION TO  
THAT KIND OF PROBLEM  
IS SOMEONE  
LIKE YOU.



I DON'T  
CARE THAT YOU  
DON'T LIKE MY POLITICS,  
AND I DON'T CARE  
THAT YOU'RE A BOY  
SCOUT...

WHAT I DO  
CARE ABOUT IS  
THAT YOU SWING A  
BIG HAMMER.







HAMBURG, GERMANY



ONE WEEK LATER.

"BE VIGILANT,  
HELMUTT..."



...BE  
LOYAL.

TELL ME  
WHAT YOU HAVE  
LEARNED.



"THERE ARE TWENTY-  
FOUR SACRED RUNES.  
ONE RUNE ON EACH  
STONE. SO, TWENTY-  
FOUR STONES."




ON THE  
PILLAR, THERE  
SHOULD BE THREE  
SPACES--ONE FOR  
EACH RUNE.




"A PARTICULAR  
SEQUENCE OF THREE  
ENABLES YOU TO USE  
THE GATE TO OPEN A  
DOORWAY TO ONE  
OF THE SEVEN  
ACCESSIBLE REALMS."

"ASGARD, ALFHEIM, JOTUNHEIM,  
NIDAVELLIR, SVARTALFHEIM,  
VANAHEIM, AND MIDGARD."





"YES, AND EACH  
STONE IS ONLY USED  
ONCE WITHIN EACH  
SEQUENCE."




"THOSE LEAD  
SOMEWHERE  
ELSE..."

"SEVEN SETS OF THREE IS  
TWENTY-ONE, BARON...WHAT  
ABOUT THE OTHER THREE?"



KNIN  
TOIA



"TO A  
ROOM WITH NO  
DOORS."



WHAT NOW,  
MASTER?



NOW I  
HAVE SOME  
FUN.



THE TRISKELION.

TWO WEEKS LATER.

NORWAY.

TWO DAYS PRIOR.



NOW.

CASUALTIES?

TOO EARLY TO TELL HOW MANY, SIR, BUT, YES... CONFIRMED BY MULTIPLE REPORTS.

VISUAL.

COMING ON NOW, SIR.





"WHAT THE HELL  
WERE YOU THINKING,  
BANNER?"



















CAP'S  
DOWN...

WHAT DO  
WE DO NOW,  
GENERAL?

READY  
THE NUKE...



AND IF  
YOU BELIEVE IN  
GOD, SOLDIER...  
PRAY FOR A  
MIRACLE.





UNDERSTAND, EVEN BEYOND  
LOKI, THERE WILL BE THOSE  
THAT STAND AGAINST YOU...  
THAT RIDICULE AND MOCK  
YOU...THERE WILL BE THOSE  
WHO DOUBT YOU.

WAVES,  
BROTHER...  
WAVES  
AGAINST  
THE ROCK  
OF ODIN.



AND IF IT IS  
NOT JUST WORDS?  
WHAT WILL YOU DO  
WHEN OTHERS STAND  
IN THE WAY OF OUR  
FATHER'S WILL?

WHAT WILL  
YOU DO WHEN  
THEY TAKE ACTION  
TO STOP YOU?  
WHEN THEY DO  
VIOLENCE?

WHAT WILL  
YOU DO WHEN  
MEN MAKE  
WAR?



"THEN,  
BROTHER..."





"I WILL  
BRING THE  
THUNDER."





**BELIEVE.**









# A GREEN GIANT SCAN

*LIKE IT?  
BUY IT!*